

Richard Turlington

2530 Carlmont Dr.
APT #7
Belmont, CA 94002

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F.C.C.

Dear Sir or Madam:

In relation to proceeding 02-230, I would like to inform you that you are making an ENORMOUS mistake. I cannot help but question what it is that you are receiving in kick-backs from imposing the measures you are contemplating? Why in God's name would you make it more difficult for the consumer to utilize "fair-use?" Why would you impose a regulation that is going to cost more money to develop and incorporate into technology, which we all know in the end is going to be paid by consumers? Why would you force people to purchase their products from outside the United States to avoid things like this? Why would you allow companies to have complete control of what I watch and when?

Go ahead and put my name on a watch list, because I can tell you RIGHT NOW, I'll more than likely be one of the FIRST people to violate this issue. It's completely ridiculous and I will never surrender my right to control what I do with my time. That's what you are taking away from me. I currently own a Digital Video Recorder made by Sonic Blue. It's called a Replay TV. It's wonderful. If you were even remotely technically inclined, you would probably own one yourself. I fear you people are creating laws and regulations on things you are not understanding. When I come home at night after a hard day of work, I have very little time to watch anything on television. I get home at 8pm. Time enough to call some distant family members and to spend quality time with my wife. The Replay TV (Digital Video Recorder) allows me to not worry about this... even though I'm paying nearly \$70 a month for cable. Why don't I worry about it? Because I tell my replay what I want to watch and to record and save it for me later. On the weekend, when I DO HAVE MORE TIME, I sit down and watch all the shows I've both PAID FOR and would have missed if not for my new technological (and UNCRIPPLED) device. What a great invention! I'm ALREADY paying for my cable... why should I be FORCED to PAY and STILL MISS programming? What a crock! It already irritates the FUCK out of me that I pay for cable and they [the cable company] get revenue from both my pocket and commercials!!!! Why are they "double-dipping?" So we've come to accept paying for it despite the fact that they already make 1 million dollars a 30 second commercial during the super bowl among other yearly revenue sources of ads. However, now that the consumer has a slight upper hand and can choose to SKIP these commercials and still record the show and watch it on their own time, the cable and satellite companies what to raise holy hell! "It fundamentally changes our business model and ability to generate revenue" they may say. Know what I have to say to that? "Boo-hoo." Welcome to the world. It is full of change. If we as the consumer have the option of skipping their commercials altogether, do you know what will happen? They will have no choice but to make commercials people will WANT to watch. Can you think of one time of the year NO ONE skips the commercials or walks away into the kitchen or changes the channel? One time people actually WANT to see EVERY commercial? SUPERBOWL!!! EVERYONE wants to see the new interesting and funny commercials. Laughing is good, and it will ALWAYS attract people. I have actually bought quite a few products because I thought the commercial was damn cool or really hilarious. This is the new business model. Then end of complete crap. The end of worthless "AS SEEN ON TV" products commercials that never work as the are advertised. Then end of boring car commercials simply showing a car driving some curves around a bend. The end of being told I just cannot live without having "X" product. Most people skip commercials already. THEY CHANGE THE CHANNEL AND COME BACK LATER. I know 9 people who mute the commercials!

Don't take away our freedom just because some yahoo company or two has money to lobby its' views into law so they can continue domination of spoon-feeding us complete crap. They want all the control, and they want to set ALL the terms. It's disgusting and I am appalled that the FCC would partake in the degradation of our right to use what we have paid for in the way that we choose. I don't record VHS tapes or CDR copies or DVD copies of shows and go selling them. I don't even trade them on the net (takes far too long to transfer that much data anyhow). I record and save on VHS for my own personal viewing at a time later that I CHOOSE on MY TERMS and on MY TIME SCHEDULE. The excuse of people making perfect copies of shows and movies and trading them on the net or selling them is completely ridiculous and IS NOTHING OTHER THAN AN ATTEMPT TO CONFUSE THE REAL ISSUE HERE. "COMPLETE CONTROL" of what people watch and when. That's the real issue folks, and if you can't see that by-God, I'm going to do what I can to remove each and everyone of the FCC members from office who voted such ridiculous regulations! If you vote such issues into law, we need to be checking your integrity... and your bank accounts!

Sincerely,

Richard W. Turlington
Technology Enthusiast/Informed and Enlightened Consumer